



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: May 6, 2008

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Administration, Library Department

SUBJECT: Agreement With The County Of Santa Barbara For The Provision Of Library Services

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council approve and authorize the Library Director to execute a three-year agreement between the County of Santa Barbara and the Cities of Santa Barbara, Santa Maria, and Lompoc for the operation of a Countywide Free Library System for Fiscal Years 2008-2010.

DISCUSSION:

Since 1910, the City of Santa Barbara has contracted with the County of Santa Barbara to provide library services to residents of the area. The most recent four-year contract expired on June 30, 2007 and a one-year contract was approved by the Council on December 11, 2007 so that the libraries could receive funding for operations in the interim until a long-term contract could be agreed upon by the County and the City libraries.

This Agreement for Operation of a Countywide Free Library System for Fiscal Years 2008-2010 provides for continued funding of library services for all Santa Barbara County residents and designates the Cities of Santa Barbara, Lompoc and Santa Maria as administrators of County Library Zones 1, 2, and 3, respectively.

The agreement specifies increases of 7% in the per capita funding in each of the Fiscal Years 2008 and 2009. Any increase in the contracted amounts for Fiscal Year 2010 will be subject to negotiations between the County Executive Office and the cities. The Fiscal Year 2008 per capita of \$6.454 will increase to a new base of \$6.906 per capita in Fiscal Year 2009.

Based on a service population of 231,894, the Santa Barbara (Library Zone 1) allocation will be \$1,601,460 in Fiscal Year 2009. Approximately \$621,540 of the County per capita allocation will be used towards operating expenses at the Central Library and the Eastside Branch. The allocation for the Carpinteria, Goleta, Montecito and Solvang branch libraries will be \$891,728. The City of Santa Barbara also receives a 9% administrative fee of \$88,192 for managing the operations and programs of these branches.

During the contract negotiations it was learned that the County was paying for janitorial services and utilities at a few branches. To equalize the level of support to all branches, the agreement contains two significant modifications that will impact the budgets of the Carpinteria and Solvang Libraries. The City of Santa Barbara will assume responsibility for paying \$11,004, the annual cost of janitorial services at the Carpinteria and Solvang branches. The City is allowed to use the funds made available by the County for this purpose. Because the Carpinteria and Solvang libraries are housed in County buildings, janitorial services had previously been provided by the County.

The City of Santa Barbara will also assume responsibility for paying the utilities and connection costs associated with the branch locations in its zone. The City is allowed to use the funds made available by the County for this purpose. Because the County is responsible for paying utilities at the Solvang branch, the County will withhold \$10,000 from its allocation to Santa Barbara to cover the costs of utilities at the Solvang Library. The County will deduct the actual cost of the utilities in June from the \$10,000 withholding and then send any remaining balance to the City of Santa Barbara.

These changes will impact the budgets of the Solvang and Carpinteria libraries, but will have no impact on City Libraries' revenues or expenditures.

To clarify aspects of the previous contract where responsibility was not specifically assigned, Exhibit D – Maintenance and Repair Responsibilities has been added to the agreement. It sets out in detail the responsibilities of each of the parties with respect to all aspects of building interiors, building exteriors, grounds and landscaping.

The Fiscal Year 2008-FY2010 Agreement was presented and discussed by members of the Library Board at their November 8, 2007 meeting and they voted to recommend approval.

PREPARED BY: Irene Macias, Library Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office